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DE RUEHTH #0377 0721013  
ZNY CCCCC ZZH(CCY ADX06CBA86 WSC1118 425A)  
O 121013Z MAR 08  
FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1446  
INFO RUCNMEM/EU MEMBER STATES COLLECTIVE PRIORITY  
RUCNIRA/IRAN COLLECTIVE PRIORITY  
RUEHAK/AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY 5090  
RUEHSW/AMEMBASSY BERN PRIORITY 0506  
RUEHBY/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA PRIORITY 0275  
RUEHNY/AMEMBASSY OSLO PRIORITY 0211  
RUEHOT/AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY 0704  
RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL PRIORITY 0120  
RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY 0152

C O N F I D E N T I A L ATHENS 000377

SIPDIS

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TO MODIFY PRIMARY TAGS)

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 03/11/2018  
TAGS: [PGOV](#) [IR](#) [KDEM](#) [PHUM](#) [PREL](#) [GR](#)  
SUBJECT: IRAN'S PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS -- GREECE SUPPORTS  
EU PRESIDENCY STATEMENT - C O R R E C T E D C O P Y TO  
MODIFY PRIMARY TAG

REF: STATE 25587

Classified By: A/Political Counselor Jeff Hovenier for 1.4 (b)  
and (d)

(C) A/Political Counselor raised reftel points on encouraging  
an EU Presidency statement on the flaws in Iran's March 14  
Parliamentary elections with MFA A6 Directorate for Arab  
Countries and the Middle East Deputy Director Giorgos  
Ayfandis. Ayfandis said that EU President/Slovenia will  
issue a statement on the elections on behalf of the EU; the  
text is currently under discussion. Ayfandis termed the  
area identified by the U.S. as deserving of focus to be  
"completely in sync" with the EU discussion. He anticipated  
that the EU Presidency statement would call attention to the  
disqualification of "very many" candidates, restrictions on  
the freedom of press, and other "problems" in the  
pre-electoral period. Ayfandis said that Greece places a  
high priority on ensuring that the U.S. and EU statements are  
"strongly similar," as a U.S./EU "unified position" will  
receive greater attention from Tehran. He welcomed our  
points and approach and said Greece will do what it can to  
ensure the EU line on the elections is similar to the U.S.  
line.

SPECKHARD